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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/762,534

01/23/2004

Kenji Nishimura

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OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
1940 DUKE STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER

HUYNH, NAM TRUNG

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2617

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

04/21/2008

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patentdocket@oblon.com
oblonpat@oblon.com
jgardner@oblon.com

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/762,534	Applicant(s) NISHIMURA ET AL.	
	Examiner NAM HUYNH	Art Unit 2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 December 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 7-11 and 14 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 8-11 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1, 7 and 14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 2-4 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/19/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Claims 5, 6, 12, 13, and 15 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 12/20/2007. In the Requirement for Restriction/Election filed on 8/27/2007, the logic or reasoning for the restriction between the two inventions is that Group I presented a communication system/multicast switching device which acquires packet data from a plurality of devices **when a communication terminal device transmits data to a mobile terminal through a plurality of base stations (emphasis added)** and Group II presented a communication system/multicast switching device which acquires packet data from a plurality of devices **when a mobile terminal transmits packet data to a communication terminal device through a plurality of base stations (emphasis added)** which is the reverse direction of transmission. Upon further review of the claims based on the emphasized distinctions, the Examiner asserts that claims 12 and 13 should have been included in Group II and therefore the claims are non-elected. An effort to contact Applicant concerning this matter was made on 4/9/2008, but with no response. Claims 1-4, 7-11, and 14 are now pending in the current application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1, 7, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Trossen et al. (US 2003/0156540) (hereinafter Trossen).

Regarding claim 1, Trossen teaches a communication system in which, when a communication terminal device (figure 5, item 509) transmits data to a mobile terminal (figure 5, item 101) through a plurality of base stations (figure 5, items 505, 506), each of a plurality of switching devices (figure 5, item 521, 523) included in communication paths between the communication terminal device and the plurality of base stations transmits packet data in a multicast manner to a plurality of devices (figure 5, item 521, 523, base stations) connected to the switching device, comprising:

a first determiner which, based on a time period necessary for transmission of the packet data from each of one or more of the plurality of switching devices to one or more base stations connected to the switching device and based on a time period necessary for transmission of the packet data (time slots) from each of one or more of the plurality of switching devices to one or more switching devices connected to the switching device at mobile terminal side, determines ,for each of the switching devices,

transmission timing indicating timing at which the switching device transmits the packet data to the plurality of devices connected to the switching device so that data reception timings at the mobile terminal become simultaneous among the plurality of base stations (paragraphs 27, 37, 38); and

a first transmitter which, in each of the switching devices, transmits the packet data to the plurality of devices connected to the switching device, based on the transmission timing determined by the first determiner (paragraph 37, 38, the multicast service is transmitted to mobiles by the determined timeslots).

Regarding claim 7, the limitations are rejected as applied to claim 1. In the invention of Trossen the timeslot information is transmitted from the node (switching device) to the base stations (devices) (paragraphs 37, 38).

Regarding claim 14, the limitations are rejected as applied to claim 1.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 8-11 are allowed.
5. Claims 2-4 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Langlet et al. (US 5,930,248).

Art Unit: 2617

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NAM HUYNH whose telephone number is (571)272-5970. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 a.m.-5 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, George Eng can be reached on 571-272-7495. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/George Eng/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617

NTH
4/11/08